From:	Itamar Turner-Trauring
To:	City Council
Subject:	My perspective as an Israeli Jew: why you should SUPPORT the HP boycott
Date:	Sunday, April 15, 2018 8:20:42 PM

Dear City Councilors,

I'm writing to you in support of the HP boycott.

I'm a US citizen and live in Cambridge, but I am also an Israeli Jew - I grew up there before moving back to the US.

HP's involvement in the oppression of the Palestinians is sufficient reason for a boycott. But it's also worth noting that HP is also involved in maintaining the equivalent of the discriminatory system in the US that was targeted by the Civil Rights Act.

My wife is not Jewish; marrying her here in Cambridge was obviously not a problem. In Israel, however, it would be impossible for me to marry her unless she converted to Orthodox Judaism. Jews can only marry Jews in Israel.

Basically, Israel has the equivalent of the now defunct anti-miscegenation laws in the US. Most Israeli Jews blame this situation on the power of religious parties in parliament, but if the current system didn't exist another would be invented. See e.g. this op-ed in Ha'aretz, the Israeli equivalent of the NYTimes: https://www.haaretz.com/opinion/.premium-why-israeli-jews-are-terrified-of-relationships-with-arabs-1.5462213 - "many secular [Israeli] families will accept a gay son enthusiastically, but will be shocked if he brings home an Arab partner". (Try searching Google for 'haaretz "in praise of intermarriage"' to get past the paywall.)

Similarly, Israel has separate educational systems for Jewish and Arab citizens, with the Arab system perennially underfunded (e.g. in 2000 Arab students got only a third of the funding a Jewish student would get - https://www.adalah.org/uploads/oldfiles/newsletter/eng/sep05/comi2.pdf).

How is all this implemented on a bureaucratic level? A national database where each person has a "nationality", and IDs linked to this database.

Moving forward these IDs will be maintained by a massive contract won by HP.

I urge you to support the boycott against HP.

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Itamar Turner-Trauring